

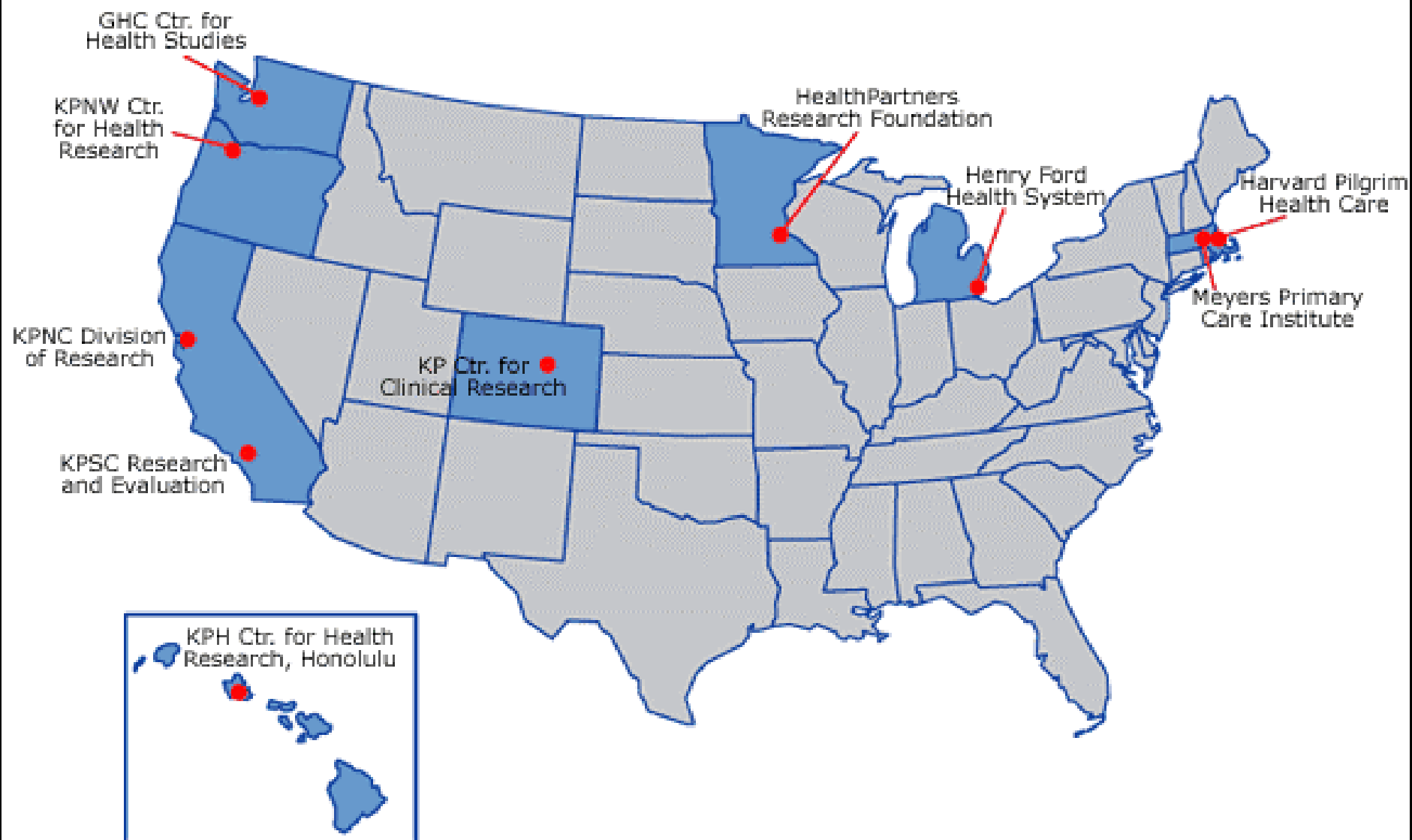
HMO Cancer Research Network

**Increasing Effectiveness of
Cancer Control Interventions**

Advantages of HMOs for Cancer Research

- Large, diverse and defined populations
- Stable populations in well-established HMOs (CRN overall disenrollment about 40% at 5 years, substantially lower with increasing age)
- Computerized data on demographic, health, health care use and costs
- Long tradition of research in non-profit sector
- Cancer registries
- Centralized policies and programs provide opportunities for study and experimentation

Cancer Research Network Sites



History & Setting

- **HMO Research Network - 1996**
 - encourage HMO-based research, especially collaborative research
- **13 Network members are largely non-profit group/staff HMOs**
- **Cancer research focus in many HMO Research Network members**
- **Successful collaborations in breast cancer screening and smoking research**

CRN Background

- **CRN formed in response to NIH RFA, funded by NCI in 1999**
- **HMO cancer research focus consistent with RFA priorities**
 - prevention strategies**
 - effectiveness of treatment**
 - cost-effectiveness**

CRN Overall Goal

**Increase the effectiveness of
preventive, curative & supportive
interventions for major cancers
through a program of collaborative
research in 10 participating HMOs**

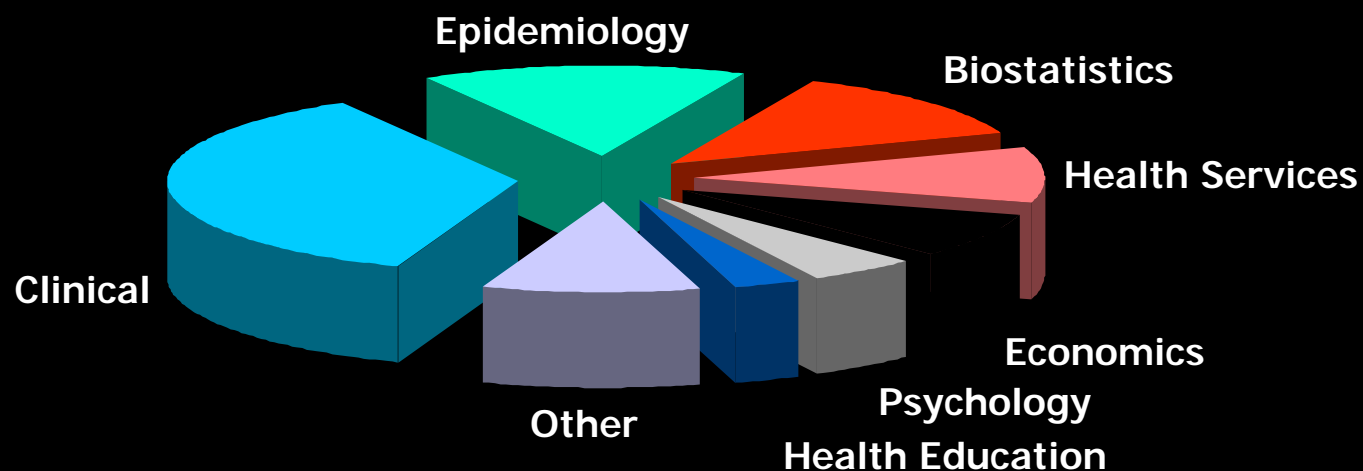
Specific Aims

- **Develop a population laboratory blending diverse populations and research expertise of the plans**
- **Use this laboratory to study and improve the effectiveness of cancer control interventions**
- **Develop & test methods to increase HMO participation in clinical trials**
- **Increase size & capacity of the laboratory by adding health plans & expertise**
- **Evaluate quality & extent of collaboration among CRN members**

Characteristics of the Plans

	GHC	HPHC	HPRF	HFHS	Fallon	KPNC	KPNW	KPSC	KPRM	KPH
Year Estab'd	1947	1969	1992	1915	1977	1945	1942	1947	1969	1958
Total Enrolled X 1000	460	1,300	510	290*	190	2,900	436	2,800	350	206
# Primary Care MD	310/ 514	320/ 7,700	220/ 2,400	1780/ 790	180/ 1,040	2,021	310	1,560	290	220
% 65+	14	7	2	0	16	9	9	10	11	12
% non- white	11	25	9	29	13	29	6	43	20	65
Research center estab'd	1983	1969	1989	1977	1996	1961	1964	1975	1987	1991

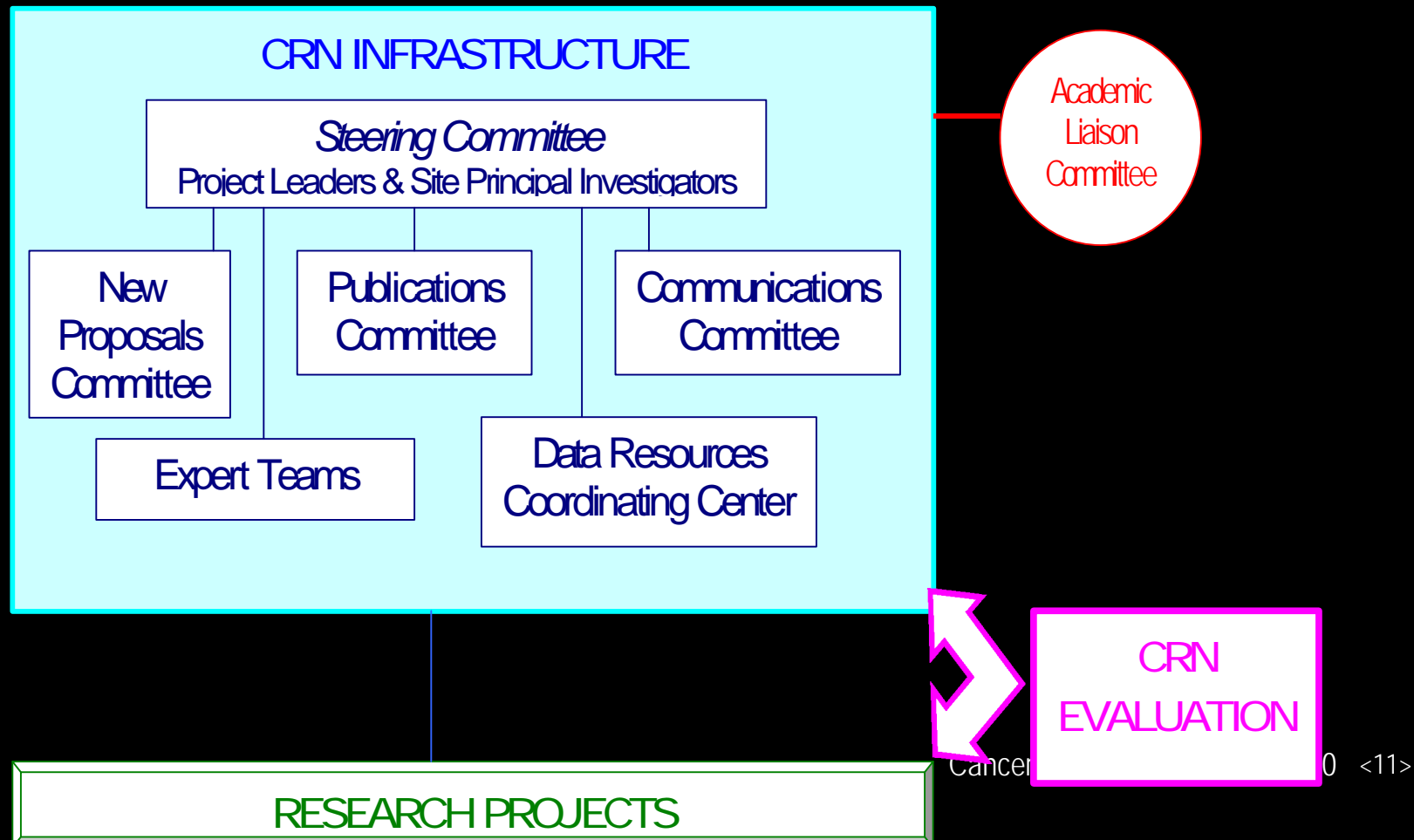
Research Disciplines of CRN Investigators (N=66)



CRN Cancer Case Identification

- 7 HMOs have tumor registries
- 5 send data to the NCDB
- Remaining 3 have developed case identification methods using diagnostic codes
- Full ascertainment of cases back to 1960's (3 HMOs), 70's (1), 80's (2), 1992 (1)
- 7 HMOs have rapid ascertainment systems in place

Organization & Administration



CRN Infrastructure

- **Goals:**
 - to promote efficient but democratic decision-making
 - to advance the quality and pace of the science
- **Leadership through Steering Committee and subcommittees**
- **Subcommittees guide decisions & formulate CRN policies**
 - **Communications**
 - **New Proposals**
 - **Publications**

CRN Infrastructure

- **External guidance and linkage with academic medical centers through Academic Liaison Committee**
- **Expert Teams in key methodologic and scientific areas**
 - Biostatistics
 - Clinical trials
 - Economics
 - Genetics
 - survivorship
 - Survey measurement
 - Pharmacoepidemiology

CRN Data Resources Coordinating Center (DRCC)

- **Facilitate understanding of HMOs & data systems for development of new projects**
- **Assure standardization of data collection and handling methods to aid data quality**
- **Increase efficiency & reduce costs of data acquisition and data transfers**

Data Resources

Coordinating Center

- **Site Data Managers represent each research center**
- **Lead responsibility at Kaiser Permanente Northwest (KPNW)**
- **CRN web site maintained by DRCC supported by Web Advisory Committee**
- **Data file documentation is maintained in a centralized web-based repository**

CRN Project 1 - HIT: HMOs Investigating Tobacco

- **Tobacco is #1 cause of preventable illness and death in the U.S., and a major factor in health care costs**
- **Health care systems vary in their tobacco cessation approaches and effectiveness**

HIT Project Specific Aims

- **Describe tobacco control policies & procedures and assess implementation**
- **Examine relationship between tobacco cessation policies & patient smoking cessation rates**
- **Analyze health care costs for current, former, and never-smokers**

CRN Project 2: Toward Reducing Cervical & Late Stage Breast Cancer

- **Consistent, broad and effective application of Pap smears and mammograms should result in reduced occurrence of late stage breast cancer, and should all but eliminate invasive cervical cancer**

Breast & Cervical Cancer Study

Specific Aims

- **Explore reasons for success or failure in the diagnosis of breast and cervical cancer, including consideration of screening, detection and follow-up**
- **Evaluate processes associated with screening guideline development, implementation & monitoring**
 - **Organizational Assessment of Policies & Procedures**
 - **Patient Survey**
 - **Clinician Survey**

CRN Project 3: Early Screening & Prophylactic Mastectomy in Women at High Risk for Breast Cancer

- **Appropriate medical management for women at high risk for breast cancer is unclear**
 - increased risk based on genetics, family and/or personal history
- **Current options include mammography at earlier age and prophylactic mastectomy**

Screening & Mastectomy Study

Specific Aims

- **Evaluate whether mammography prior to age 50 reduces breast cancer mortality in women with personal or family history of breast cancer**
- **Determine whether prophylactic mastectomy reduces risk of subsequent breast cancer in women with a family or personal history**

New CRN Projects

- **Barriers to Clinical Trials Pilot Study**
- **Cancer Surveillance in HMO
Administrative Data**

CRN Evaluation

- **The CRN structure and function undergo annual formative evaluation**
- **Main measures**
 - **quality and quantity of communications**
 - **performance of projects, DCC, expert teams**
 - **data quality**
 - **impact on CRN member organizations, particularly in the area of clinical trials**
 - **scientific productivity**